

19-04

EXECUTIVE ORDER ENDORSING THE APCO PROJECT 25 (P25)
PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO STANDARD FOR THE STATE OF MONTANA

WHEREAS, the safety of the public safety responders of Montana is of paramount importance; and

WHEREAS, public safety communications provides a critical role protecting the lives and property of the citizens of Montana; and

WHEREAS, the State's public safety communications infrastructure is becoming outdated; and

WHEREAS, Federal agencies have adopted the APCO Project 25 standard which effects the ability of public safety communications systems to interoperate with one another, due to new technology and shifts in standards; and

WHEREAS, the effectiveness of public safety communications between jurisdictions to cooperate and coordinate voice and data information is critical to the mission of public safety; and

WHEREAS, the Statewide Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC) was created to provide policy level direction for matters related to planning, designing and implementing guidelines, best practices, and standard approaches to solve Montana=s

1 public safety communications interoperability problems and to leverage any opportunity
2 in support of a statewide system, including seeking federal funding, or other funding, for
3 statewide interoperability; and

4 WHEREAS, the Project 25 Phase I (ANSI/TIA/EIA 102 series) standards are a
5 direct result of a seven-year cooperative effort of a committee comprised of the
6 Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA), the Association of Public Safety
7 Communications Officials International, Inc. (APCO), the Telecommunications and
8 Technology Professionals Serving State Government (NASTD), (formerly the National
9 Association of State Telecommunication Officials), and numerous Federal agencies
10 including the National Communications System (NCS), the Department of Treasury, the
11 Department of Justice, the National Security Agency (NSA) and the National
12 Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA); and

13
14 WHEREAS, every aspect of Project 25 is designed to benefit public safety
15 professionals who seek a new level of performance, efficiency, capabilities, and quality
16 in two-way radio communications; and

17 WHEREAS, four key objectives guided the steering committee through this open
18 process:

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20 1. Provide enhanced functionality with equipment and
21 capabilities focused on public safety needs;
22 2. Improve spectrum efficiency;
23 3. Ensure competition among multiple vendors through
24 Open Systems Architecture; and
25 4. Allow effective, efficient, and reliable intra-
26 agency and inter-agency communications; and
27

1 WHEREAS, the Statewide Interoperability Executive Council
2 has adopted by formal action the APCO Project 25 standard to
3 promote and enhance statewide interoperability; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the Project 25 standard enables compliant radios
6 to communicate in either digital mode with other P25 compliant
7 radios or analog mode with existing analog radios; and
8

9 WHEREAS, Project 25 systems can be maintained and upgraded
10 cost effectively over the system=s life cycle, thereby meeting
11 user requirements, achieving interoperability, prompting
12 committed manufacturers to provide compliant products, fostering
13 competition, and achieving cost-effective solutions.
14

15 NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUDY MARTZ, Governor of the State of
16 Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the laws and
17 Constitution of the State of Montana, do hereby require any
18 State agency requiring digital voice communications to comply
19 with the APCO P25 standards. State agencies are further
20 directed to develop a migration plan for P25 public safety radio
21 communications.
22

23 This Order is effective immediately.
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25

26 GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT
27 SEAL of the State of Montana, this
28 _____ day of _____, 2004.

JUDY MARTZ, Governor

ATTEST:

BOB BROWN, Secretary of State